

JAN 27 1925 /

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Synopsis of "PAMPERED YOUTH."

From the novel "The Magnificent Ambersons,"  
by Booth Tarkington.

Scenario by Jay Pilcher

The Amberson family is the richest, most autocratic, most influential family in Midland. Their mansion is the show place of the town, and the other townsfolk are aghast at the way they spend money, the fittings of the house and their habits following a trip to Europe. The family consists of Major George Amberson, his son George, Jr., and his daughter Isabel.

Many suitors present their claims for the hand of Isabel - but two have the best of the running. They are Eugene Morgan, a brilliant young man, interested in mechanics; and Wilbur Minafer, not so attractive, but considered a "steady" young business man. To decide an argument as to which young man shall have the honor of taking Isabel for a drive, there is a sulky race on the Major's race track. Eugene wins - as Isabel wanted him to. She favors him. But that night when Eugene serenades her beneath her window, he has been drinking too much, falls over, and makes a show of himself. She believes that Eugene cannot care much for her - to make a clown of himself in her front yard, and she accepts Wilbur - although she does not love him. Eugene, heart-broken, leaves town, going to Detroit and becoming interested in the experiments with gasoline engines. The gossips of the town, knowing that Isabel does not really love Wilbur, predict a spoiled lot of children.

There is only one child, however, - George Amberson Minafer, and the mother's love that should have been divided between her husband and her child - was lavished on the boy. He was spoiled, being brought up in the belief that as he was an Amberson, he was superior to all others in the town. The others, he is taught, are riffraff. He has a fight with a minister's son, and when the minister interferes, he calls the minister names. The minister reports to Isabel, but the boy maintains that the incident bore no significance as "none of the Ambersons went to see the minister - so what different did it make."

George Minafer grows up and goes to college. His father becomes enfeebled in health. George's education and expensive habits eat into the Amberson fortune, and the growth of the town finds that the old Major has not kept pace with progress. When George comes home after his first year in college, he is given a reception, where he meets Lucy Morgan. Lucy of the daughter of the widowed Eugene - the latter already on his way to great wealth in the motorcar industry.

After his first day's work, exhausted and benumbed, he is run down by a motorcar, and taken to a hospital. Eugene and Lucy read of the accident, and also learn that the Minifers are penniless. Lucy begs her father to see Isabel again. Eugene applies at the tenement house and sees Lucy. She refuses his aid, although she does not deny that she still loves him. Eugene leaves. A fire starts on the ground floor of the tenement. Isabel, overcome at the sight of Eugene and his leaving, faints - while the flames begin to sweep through the building. When she is aroused by the smoke, it is too late to escape by the stairs. She leans from the window and calls for help.

Meanwhile George, at the hospital, is anxiously waiting for his mother to call for him and take him home - as he has recovered enough by this time. He hears the fire engines and is worried. Eugene Morgan arrives at the scene of the fire, and seeing Isabel's plight, fights aside firemen who would stop him, and ascends the ladders to her apartment. Gathering her in a blanket, he is about to descend, when the ladder burns away. Escape is cut off. Eugene carries Isabel to the roof, and barely get to another roof on the adjoining building, as the wall topples - crashing down below. An extension, pivotal ladder is brought and firemen climb up to get Eugene and Isabel. They all get on the ladder and swing out and the second building collapsed.

Isabel is taken to the hospital, and George sees that it is his mother. The doctor tells him of the thrilling rescue made by Morgan, and George suffers another blow to his pride. His humiliation is now complete, and when he sees his mother and learns that she is out of danger, he tells her of Eugene's heroism - and of his own humiliation.

George goes to Eugene's house, where he apologizes to Eugene and to Lucy, and thus removes himself from the path of happiness that Eugene and Isabel expect. He takes Lucy and Eugene to the hospital, where Eugene finds happiness in the presence of Isabel, and Lucy and George forget past bitternesses.

George senses the sentimental interest that still exists between his mother and Eugene, and shows marked antipathy to Eugene - although he hopes to win Lucy for his bride. As he and Lucy are driving, they pass an auto, stalled - in which are Eugene, Isabel, George Amberson and Fanny Minafer. The horse takes fright and runs away, and Lucy and George narrowly escape serious injury. On the way home, George overhears Eugene calling his mother a "divinely ridiculous woman," and greatly resents it.

While George is back at college, his father's health fails and George, summoned home, arrives in time to see his father pass away.

After graduation, George travels abroad, spending money like water, and then returning home, finding his grandfather worried about money, and building new houses on the Amberson property to increase his income. George pleads with Lucy to be engaged to him, but when she says that her father wants to know what business or profession George intends entering, George is enflamed against Eugene Morgan - and snubs him in front of one of the town's gossips and Fanny Minafer - who has always cherished a wistful interest in Eugene. Fanny tells George how the town is gossiping about his mother and Morgan. George broods over this, believing it unfair to the memory of his father - and even shuts his mother out of his room. ~~Next~~ The next morning, when he hears Morgan phoning an engagement to Isabel to take her driving, George meets Eugene at the door and tells him that he is not wanted at the Amberson mansion ever again. Morgan relates this affront to Uncle George and sends a letter by him to Isabel, in which he says that she must chose - whether to continue as George wants her - or live her own life, by marrying him (Eugene). Isabel goes to George, showing him the letter. George decides against his mother's happiness, and she, bound up in her love for her son, sacrifices her feelings for Eugene and writes him that their future relations must stop. Lucy hears of it, and tries to tear the image of George from her heart.

Major Amberson dies - in poverty. George is stunned. Uncle George accepts a diplomatic post in Central America, and Isabel refuses to let him apply to Morgan to aid her and George. George and his mother take rooms on the top floor of a tenement, and George looks for work. The Ambersons' attorney emphasizes his need for this, in a scathing denunciation in which he tells George just what his conceit, false pride and bigoted opinions have done. The attorney blames George for the wrecking of the Amberson fortune; the wrecking of the happiness of his mother; and accuses him of being indirectly responsible for the death of his father and his grandfather. George begins to see his errors. He tries for employment, but has no experience to offer. He is finally driven to take a job, digging a conduit.

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Dated at Washington, D.C.

January 28th, 1925

Register of Copyrights,  
Library of Congress,  
Washington, D. C.

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motion picture photoplay entitled

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deposited in the Copyright Office on January 26th, 1925 and registered  
under Class XXc., No. 1072.

If this request cannot be granted you are asked and authorized to send  
the said copy or copies to me at the following address:  
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or  
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Signed Eddie Phillips  
(Claimant of Copyright)

(Sept., 1924—500)

JAN 30 1925

*Eddie Phillips*

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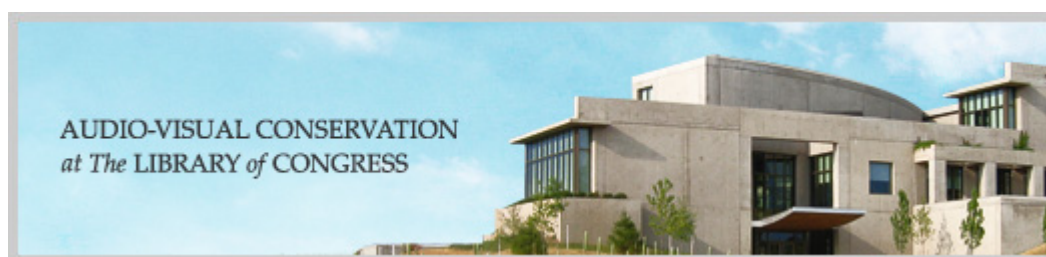
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